GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4618
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008
ERADICATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGING
Barman Shri Hiten;Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are still more than 90,000 scavengers to be liberated from the dehumanizing practices of scavenging;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard;

(c) whether Government has completed the revision of guidelines on Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme based on inputs received from States narrating the difficulties in its implementations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely deadline for eradication of manual scavenging in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION(KUMARI SELJA)

(a)&(b): The Govt. of India implements the Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS). The Scheme started in January, 2007 by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment aims at rehabilitation of manual scavengers, who at any point of time, were engaged in manual scavenging and are yet to be assisted for rehabilitation. As per the scheme, there were 3,42,468 such persons, which included their dependents also.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. The revised gudelines of the Centrally Sponsored `Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme` (ILCS) has been approved by the Government. The details of the revised Scheme is enclosed at Annexure.

(e): As per the revised guidelines, it is proposed to convert existing dry latrines in to water borne flush toilets in the urban areas of the country in a time bound manner by 2009-10.